

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) would vote "nay."

Mr. BREAUX. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) would vote "aye."

The result was announced—yeas 88, nays 5, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 147 Leg.]

YEAS—88

Abraham	Durbin	Lieberman
Akaka	Enzi	Lott
Allard	Faircloth	Lugar
Ashcroft	Feingold	Mack
Baucus	Feinstein	McConnell
Bennett	Frist	Mikulski
Biden	Glenn	Moseley-Braun
Bingaman	Graham	Moynihan
Bond	Gramm	Murray
Boxer	Grams	Nickles
Breaux	Grassley	Reed
Brownback	Gregg	Reid
Bryan	Hagel	Robb
Burns	Harkin	Roberts
Byrd	Hatch	Rockefeller
Campbell	Helms	Santorum
Chafee	Hollings	Sarbanes
Cleland	Hutchinson	Sessions
Coats	Hutchison	Shelby
Cochran	Inhofe	Smith (NH)
Collins	Jeffords	Smith (OR)
Conrad	Johnson	Snowe
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Stevens
Craig	Kerrey	Thomas
D'Amato	Kerry	Thompson
Daschle	Kohl	Thurmond
DeWine	Landrieu	Warner
Dodd	Lautenberg	Wyden
Domenici	Leahy	
Dorgan	Levin	

NAYS—5

Gorton	Roth	Wellstone
Kyl	Specter	

NOT VOTING—7

Bumpers	Kennedy	Torricelli
Ford	McCain	
Inouye	Murkowski	

The conference report was agreed to. Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. DOMENICI pertaining to the submission introduction of S. Res. 36 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Senate Concurrent and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. BREAUX addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. BREAUX. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. BREAUX pertaining to the introduction of S. 2121 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

ISTEA

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I rise for a moment to congratulate all of those Senators who have had so much to do with the success that we have just demonstrated with the passage of the Interstate Transportation Efficiency Act, the so-called ISTE II bill. Senator BAUCUS, Senator CHAFEE, Senator WARNER, Senator BYRD, and Senator GRAMM deserve our accolades and our commendation for a job extraordinarily well done.

This represents the single biggest investment in our infrastructure in our Nation's history. It represents an effort to recognize the importance of infrastructure and the array of challenges that we face in an information age, as well as at the turn of this century and the entrance into a new millennium.

It also recognizes the importance of regional balance—the West, the South, the Northeast, the Midwest—all with our disparate challenges and problems that we face with infrastructure, all with the needs, all with the recognition that our States are vastly different as those needs are reflected in public policy. This not only represents the greatest investment, in my view, it represents as well the best regional balance that we have been able to demonstrate.

Finally, I think it recognizes the importance of something the distinguished Senator from Louisiana and the Senator from West Virginia have said on the floor many times: We must recognize the critical nature of the trust fund itself and restore the practice that this country had at one point and was religious in adhering to, and that is that we use the funds that are designated for particular trust funds as they should be used. When this legislation is fully implemented, that is exactly what will happen; the trust fund will be used as it must be used.

Today, we spend approximately \$32 billion from the trust fund on an annual basis, but only \$21 billion goes to highways and infrastructure needs; \$11 billion, roughly, goes to needs that are not highway designated, that are not related to infrastructure. Mr. President, the time has come for us to make a change in that practice, and this legislation does it.

There has been a great deal of concern expressed on both sides of the aisle about the veterans' offset. Frankly, I am very disappointed and discouraged about the fact that we are using a veterans' fund for purposes of offset, but this is not the last word. I must say, if we were using the trust fund for which it was designed, we wouldn't need the veterans' fund because the highway fund is more than adequate to cover our needs for infrastructure in this country.

We will revisit the veterans smoking issue, and, in my view, we will revisit it in a successful way. We must recognize there is a dependency created in large measure because of past practices in the Armed Forces that we must ad-

dress. Whether it is in the smoking bill, whether it is in some other legislation in the future, we will not ignore the fact that veterans need the same consideration as every other smoker in this country; in fact, in some cases you could clearly say more.

There are two issues to be resolved: One is the offset; the second is the policy. I believe in the longer term we will deal with both successfully. But that should not in any way dissuade us from taking great satisfaction today with this accomplishment, for the tremendous job that was done in bringing us to this point; that, in fact, at long last—a month overdue—at long last we did what the Nation was waiting for us to do: Pass a meaningful infrastructure bill that represents the needs, challenges, and demands that must be put on this Nation as we enter a new era.

I yield the floor.

VETERANS

Mr. BREAUX. Let me make a brief comment. I want to associate my comments and feeling with the earlier remarks of the distinguished Democratic leader, Senator DASCHLE, with regard to his comments about this bill and the use of funds in the highway legislation that could be used for veterans disability benefits associated with smoking.

I was very, very pleased to hear Senator DASCHLE point out very clearly that this issue will be revisited. It needs to be revisited. It is unfortunate, I think, that moneys that were going to be available for veterans who have suffered disabilities from smoking problems will be used for part of this legislation that we just recently passed. But I think it is very clear there is a strong feeling among most all members of the Commerce Committee that this is an issue that needs to be revisited. We need to find the funds to make sure that these types of health disabilities are taken care of and that if it is a veterans disability associated with their service that they be treated as such. I support that. I will be here to do anything that I can to try and correct this problem.

As we deal with the tobacco legislation on the floor, it would seem to me this would be, perhaps, a good way of addressing this particular issue as a health-related smoking issue. I hope we could find a way within the tobacco legislation to address this.

I stand committed to work with Senator DASCHLE on finding a way to correct this problem. I am quite confident that we will be able to do so, and certainly I am committed to do that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Hawaii.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, before we break for the Memorial Day recess, I